

THE QUALITY ROYAL MAGAZINE

# MAJESTY



## THE DUCHESS DIDN'T KATE DO WELL!



SIXTY-FIVE YEARS



TRAGIC ENDING



IN CANADA

HENRY: THE  
LOST PRINCE  
DEFINITELY  
ROYAL – MORE  
OR LESS  
AND FINALLY

VOL 33 NO 11

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# FIRST WORD

FROM MAJESTY'S EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**W**HILE THE DUKE and Duchess of Cambridge were staying at Chateau d'Autet, Viscount Linley's home in the Luberon region of France, they became victims of a paparazzo photographer. The images, showing Kate topless, were taken with a powerful long lens from a public road almost a mile away from the elevated pool area where they were sunbathing.

William and Kate were none the wiser until the photographs were published over several pages in a French magazine. Such was their distress that they took the unusual step of launching a civil case against the magazine and a criminal case against the photographer for invading their privacy in what they described as 'a grotesque and totally unjustifiable manner'.

The French court banned the magazine from selling or re-using the photographs, demanding that the original images be handed over to the royal couple, but that didn't stop an Irish newspaper or Swedish, Danish and Italian magazines from following suit. The copyright of the images belongs to the photographer, who has yet to be identified.

The Cambridges have to accept that in this digital age their powers are limited. Gone are the days when some loyal soul such as the late Eduardo Sanchez, owner of *Hello!* magazine, could afford to step in and purchase the offending pictures. When Diana, Princess of Wales was photographed sunbathing topless on a hotel balcony in Spain, gallant Eduardo bought all the images and nothing more was done.

Twenty years on, technology may be different but emotions are the same and Prince William was understandably extremely angry. Kate, despite her serene demeanour, must feel very much the same as Diana did, who sometimes likened photographers to rapists.

Before their marriage, William made a pledge to his wife-to-be that he would do everything in his power to protect not only her but her family too. In this case the British press are not at fault, but sadly in the eyes of the royal family they are all one and the same. In early 1982, when Diana was pregnant with Prince William and was on holiday in the Bahamas with Prince Charles, tabloid photographers hiding in undergrowth near the beach snapped her. The Queen was so annoyed and worried by the Princess's distress at the situation that she called a meeting of editors at Buckingham Palace and asked them to leave her daughter-in-law alone.

Prince William does not need his grandmother to do this; he can look after Kate himself, but the sad reality is that no member of the royal family, especially one as high profile as his wife, is safe from prying lenses anywhere other than inside royal residences.

Luckily, memories are short, and the success of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's tour and the Diamond Jubilee year in general will mean the photographs are soon all but forgotten. The lesson learned, however, will not be, nor will the gulf between the royals and the press, which regrettably widens each time their privacy is violated.



Business as usual  
for Kate at a Kuala Lumpur mosque  
on the day those  
photographs were  
published in France

*Linda Seward*

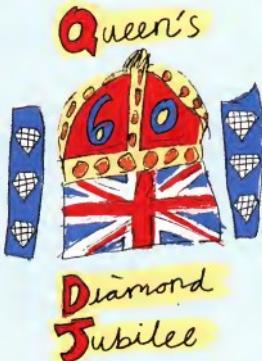
MAJESTY

THE DUCHESS  
CATHERINE WHEEL

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Robert Golden reflects on various aspects of regal life, both ancient and modern



# Canada's Couple

Although a visit to Canada by the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall earlier this year officially marked the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Earl and Countess of Wessex's tour in September upheld another popular royal – and distinctly Canadian – tradition and emphasised their 'deep and personal relationship with Canada'. By LYNNE BELL

**E**DWARD AND SOPHIE'S week-long visit to the province of Ontario and the northern territory of Nunavut was billed as a 'private working visit'. Only part of a previous visit to Canada by this royal couple (in 2000) was an official trip – that is, one hosted and funded by the federal government. Since then, the Prince has worked hard to forge a new kind of royal visit to the country, one that concentrates on 'hands-on' involvement with the organisations with which he and his wife are involved and is completely funded by these organisations.

Even though this was a working visit with a minimum of ceremony, at their first stop, in Ottawa, the couple met with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and were entertained by Governor-General David Johnston, an indication of the esteem in which they and the monarchy are held.

Their time in Canada's capital was brief yet busy. While the Earl presented the first of 250 Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, the Countess – clad in maple-leaf red – visited the Canadian War Museum and made a concerted effort to speak to everyone in the room, many of whom were veterans.

The couple reunited to lay a wreath at the National War Memorial before Edward attended a golf tournament in aid of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award while Sophie toured the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride Centre, where she met

the riders and horses that make up the equestrian spectacle. These almost-annual visits by the Earl and Countess usually alternate between eastern and western Canada. However, this time, the royal couple specifically asked that a visit to Canada's north be included in their itinerary.

As part of a promise he made in 2009 in Calgary, Edward vowed to visit the region in an effort to assist the youth there by fostering a mentoring programme between Mounties and Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants. This was the Prince's 33rd visit to Canada and the Countess's ninth, yet it was their first visit to the territory of Nunavut, where they traded the more formal friendliness and familiar sights of Canada's capital with the unbridled enthusiasm of a small-town welcome in Iqaluit, Nunavut's seat of government.

An open invitation by Premier Eva Aariak asking residents to the parish hall for a community feast garnered an overwhelming response, with nearly 400 people gaining admittance and an equal number of people lined up outside on a cold, rainy evening in the hopes of dining with the royal guests. Inside, the Earl and Countess feasted on local delicacies that included hot char chowder, sweet caribou stew, fry bread and raw whale and caribou meat, as well as a cake decorated with the words 'Welcome to Nunavut' in English, French and Inuktitut. ➤



The Countess of Wessex visits the  
Toronto International Film Festival  
on 14 September

OPPOSITE PAGE: Prince Edward attends  
a memorial dedication ceremony at  
426 Squadron, CFB Trenton, Ontario

**CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT:**  
Edward and Sophie at  
Rideau Hall in Ottawa  
with Canadian Governor-  
General David Johnston  
and his wife, Sharon

The Countess of Wessex,  
as colonel-in-chief,  
inspects her soldiers  
and presents new  
colours to the Welland  
and Lincoln Regiment  
at Queenston Heights

The Earl of Wessex  
receives a carving from  
Squadron Commanding  
Officer Lt.-Col. Damon  
Perrault at CFB Trenton  
on 15 September





The couple sat only briefly on the folding chairs they were offered and instead circulated in the hall, speaking to as many people as possible as children in particular surrounded Sophie throughout the evening. Local elder Annie Iping said, 'It is so wonderful to have a visit from the Queen's son. It is important to Inuit people, so, as an elder, it's special to me.'

Cathy Towtongie, after presenting a soapstone carving of an Inuit hunter to the distinguished visitors, said: 'Inuit respect the royal family. And we honour them as a family, because we get identified with families, not governments, and that's why there's a lot of people here tonight.'

As Towtongie presented the Earl and Countess of Wessex with the carving, Sophie ran her hands over it, accidentally displacing a miniature spear. Thinking his wife had damaged the gift, Edward quipped, 'It wasn't me!' Fortunately, they departed with an intact work of art to the sound of enthusiastic and sustained applause.

Earlier in the day, the Earl spoke at length to RCMP officers as he presented them with various awards and commendations, Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals among them.

Referring to a plane crash that occurred last year and the RCMP officers who were involved in the rescue and recovery operation, the Prince said: 'It's very, very much appreciated, all that you do in service of the Crown and going that extra mile.' He concluded, 'It's all very well planning an exercise, but it's quite a different reality to face the real thing. And you rose to that challenge.'

The Countess's itinerary included official events, such as the dedication of the igloo-shaped St. Jude's Cathedral, where she accompanied her husband. However, much of her time in Iqaluit was spent visiting a women's shelter, a group home for children and a nursing school, with many people echoing what one instructor said: 'She's so easy to talk to!'

Once back in Ontario, the Wessexes continued their small-town sojourn as, jointly or solo, they visited the communities of Trenton, Niagara, Midland, St. Catharines and Penetanguishine, as well as the cities of Hamilton and Toronto. ▶





TOP: PAUL TROTTER/PA WIRE

At Canadian Forces Base Trenton, in the presence of Second World War veterans, the Earl unveiled a memorial in honour of eight Halifax Bomber LW682 aircrew members who died in Belgium in 1944. 'It is an honour to be standing before you in front of this particular memorial,' he said. 'Having been a witness to the unveiling of the Bomber Command memorial in London, UK, earlier this year and being able to see the memorial close handed, and indeed the root and history behind that, and to be here today to unveil this memorial is a truly special occasion.'

'I want to remember those who didn't come back and be eternally thankful to those of you who returned safely. I am here to thank you for what you did.'

'I am just so sorry that it took so long in so many ways to recognise the enormous efforts and service that you gave, not just to the old country but to the free world as well.'

In Hamilton, Edward stood in for the Duke of Edinburgh, colonel-in-chief of the regiment, as he presided over the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry's Trooping of the Colours; meanwhile the Countess, accompanied by her military beret-wearing father, Christopher Rhys-Jones, visited Niagara and presented new colours to the Lincoln and Welland Regiment (of which she is colonel-in-chief) and attended a barbecue with troops and their families.

In Toronto, as the guest of the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, Sophie, elegant in black and carrying an eye-catching, fan-shaped clutch bag, attended a Toronto International Film Festival reception and screening, and presented Diamond Jubilee Medals.

Like her brother-in-law, the Prince of Wales, the Countess was invited to try her hand at a turntable, prompting the inevitable good-natured comparisons to Canada's other up-and-coming royal DJ.

During Prince Edward's first 'working visit' to Canada in 1994, one of the organisers noted: 'These visits are meant to be as informal as possible - worthy causes with a minimum of ceremony. It's a good way for the royal family to visit Canada in the context of the Crown.' Or, as one official said in Nunavut, 'Just by coming here, you make us feel big.'

M



TOP: PAUL TROTTER/PA WIRE

ABOVE: Celebrity DJ L'Qenz passes on her turntable skills to the Countess of Wessex

TOP: The royal couple attend a community event in Iqaluit, Nunavut, on 13 September

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**ABOVE:** This is the last photograph of Victoria, Dowager Marchioness of Milford Haven, taken by her son Earl Mountbatten of Burma in her Kensington Palace apartment less than a month before her death. During her last weeks it was obvious to all around her that she was failing. Her numerous descendants came to say goodbye, but still she went on. She would wake up in the morning, furious that she was still alive, having to face more apparent farewells.

# Definitely Royal

As his third book is published, ROBERT GOLDEN outlines the differences between those undisputedly royal and those less so

IT IS A happy coincidence that a very grand photograph of Queen Mary was chosen for the cover of my new book. Her late Majesty neatly links together the book's title: *Definitely Royal – more or less!* By her marriage to the Duke of York, later Prince of Wales, and from 1910 to 1936 King George V, she was 'definitely royal'. Her origins were less so; being the daughter of a morganatic prince she was 'more or less' royal. Through her mother, Princess Mary Adelaide of Cambridge, she was a great-granddaughter of King George III and Queen Charlotte; her maternal ancestry was not in question. However her father's antecedents, at least by German royal house rules, did not stand up to close scrutiny.

Mary was a scion of the royal house of Württemberg, a kingdom in southern Germany. Her paternal grandfather, Duke Alexander of Württemberg, was heir apparent to the throne but lost his position by making an unequal marriage.

His bride, Countess Claudine Rhédey of Kis-Rhéde, although of a Hungarian noble family, was not considered to be of equal birth according to Württemberg house rules, therefore the marriage was morganatic. Whilst the Duke retained his royal style and title, his wife did not share them: she was created Countess Hohenstein; their offspring were also given the Hohenstein title. Mary's father, Franz, Count Hohenstein, was made Prince Teck by his Württemberg kinsman, with the qualification Serene Highness. ➤



**ABOVE:** Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone opens a seamen's hostel in Dunkirk, 1922. Alice enjoyed visiting the Continent, and carried out more engagements in Europe than any other British princess of her time. She also travelled extensively to visit her extended family, Coburg and Arlsten in Germany, The Hague and Stockholm featured regularly in her peregrinations.

**RIGHT:** Princess Christina of Sweden, Princess Margrethe of Denmark, Princess Birgitta and Crown Prince Carl Gustaf of Sweden. Back row: Elizabeth Abel Smith, and princesses Margaretta and Desiree of Sweden.

In 1871, five years after his marriage to Mary Adelaide, he became Duke of Teck, Queen Victoria granting him the style Highness. The future Queen Mary and her brothers were Serene Highnesses. It is interesting to speculate that had Duke Alexander made an equal marriage he would have become King of Württemberg. Queen Mary's eldest brother, Adolphus, would have been the last king (the monarchy being abolished in 1918) and her nephew, George, Marquess of Cambridge, the last heir apparent.

The concept of morganatic marriages is still current in some continental royal families. The present head of the royal house of Prussia, Prince Georg Friedrich, has an uncle who by primogeniture should be head of the house. However, as he married a commoner, his father, Prince Louis Ferdinand, deprived him of his right, passing it to his third son, Georg Friedrich's late father.

Although morganatic marriages do not exist in Great Britain, there have been some royal marriages where the spouse does not enjoy equal rank with her husband. These marriages were either contracted without the permission of the sovereign or, if the royal personage had reached the age of 25, without giving due notice to Parliament, thus being in contravention of the Royal Marriages Act of 1772. George III, who was unhappy with the marital choices of his brothers, the dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland, introduced this act. ➤





ABOVE LEFT: As a child, Lady Mary Cambridge, pictured with her mother Dorothy, the Marchioness of Cambridge, was much in demand as a bridesmaid; she performed this role along with Princess Elizabeth in 1931 at the wedding of Lady May Cambridge and Major Henry Abel Smith, and in 1934 at the Westminster Abbey marriage of the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina of Greece and Denmark. The following year they were together again when the Duke of Gloucester married Lady Alice Montagu-Douglas-Scott in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. Mary's final appearance as bridesmaid at a royal wedding was in 1947 when the present Queen married Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten.



ABOVE: Princess Margarita (Prince Philip's eldest sister) sporting an elaborate tiara. At one time the Hohenlohe-Langenburg family into which she married owned 36 castles; by 1959 they were down to three, two of which were open to the public. They opened a guesthouse in their own home, a few miles outside Stuttgart, which unfortunately did not pay.

A single room cost £1 2 shillings per night, while a suite was £5 16 shillings. Princess Margarita gave it up in 1958; too many relations were popping in to take the guest rooms.

LEFT: The Marchioness of Carisbrooke is a willing participant in a conjuring trick by the comedian Tommy Cooper. Irene supported many charities, especially those helping cancer victims. It is ironic that she died from that ghastly disease aged only 66.

She good-humouredly tolerated her husband's interests in the male form. On one occasion, when he was out, there was a knock at the door of their home, King's Cottage, Kew. Their daughter, Iris, opened the door, to find a handsome young man asking for her father. To the embarrassment of the caller, Iris shouted out, 'Mummy, it's one of daddy's guardsmen. Where shall I put him?' The young soldier fled across Kew Green.



The Duke of Sussex, sixth son of George III, married twice, both unions being in contravention of the 1772 act. His first wife, Lady Augusta Murray, whom he married in Rome in 1793, did not become Duchess of Sussex; she was given the surname De Ameland, while their children's surname was D'Este. After her death he married Lady Cecilia Buggin, who was created Duchess of Inverness nine years after their marriage.

Queen Victoria facilitated this enhancement as a *quid pro quo* for the duke, as her senior uncle in England, relinquishing his precedence at court, making way for Prince Albert to have a higher place in the pecking order. Marriages that take place in contravention of the Royal Marriages Act are technically illegal, though they are valid in the eyes of the Church of England. At the time of writing, the future of this act remains uncertain. M

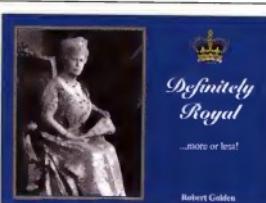


PIERRE'S PRIVATE COLLECTION

**ABOVE:** In June 1905 the Norwegian Storting (Parliament) voted to end the union with Sweden that had been in force since 1814. Later that year Sweden signed a treaty acknowledging the dissolution; for the first time in 500 years Norway was independent. As the country was without a head of state the government offered the throne to Prince Carl of Denmark, on condition that he was elected by the people. A plebiscite gave a four-to-one majority in his favour.

Queen Mary's aunt, Augusta, Dowager Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, was horrified and in a characteristic manner dashed off a letter to her niece. 'Really, for Maud to sit on a revolutionary throne.' In order to identify himself and his heir with the Norwegian people, Carl took the ancient Viking name Haakon; the new Crown Prince became Olav.

**LEFT:** Queen Sophie of Greece looks like she's ready for action. Her early love affair with the Greek people did not last, yet when she married Crown Prince Constantine in Athens in 1889 the omens were excellent. According to Greek legend, 'When a Constantine espouses a Sophie, Saint Sophia will again be Greek.' During the First World War she was thought to be in collusion with her brother, the German Emperor; in reality they were not close.



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Side by side: The Queen and Prince Philip visit Perth in Scotland during Holyrood Week in July

OPPOSITE PAGE: The happy couple leave Westminster Abbey after their wedding on 20 November 1947

# Sixty-Five Years

Privately, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh share a lot of laughter. Perhaps this is why their marriage has lasted so long and so well, overcoming occasional domestic difficulties along the way, says INGRID SEWARD

ON 8 JULY 1947 Prince Philip was invited to dine at Buckingham Palace with King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. He was no stranger – almost one of the family, in fact – but this time it was different. Governess Marion Crawford recalled Princess Elizabeth poking her head around her door and saying, ‘Something is going to happen at last... He’s coming tonight.’ According to Crawfie, the next day the Princess entered her room much earlier than usual, closed the door and held out her left hand.

‘Her engagement ring sparkled there. It was a large square diamond with smaller diamonds either side’.

Princess Elizabeth was delighted. As she told her cousin, Margaret Elphinstone, she had spent ‘seven years of thinking about Philip and not anybody else’, waiting and hoping for the day she would become engaged to the Prince.

She was just 21 and a future queen. He was five years older, and a virtually penniless prince of Greece, a country that had rejected his family if not his title.

Philip was, however, descended ‘from almost everyone’. A great-great-grandson of Queen Victoria, a distant cousin to her father and related to the royal families of Russia, Romania, Yugoslavia and Germany – it was even claimed he was a descendant of the illustrious Charlemagne.

‘Not to put too fine a point on it,’ his cousin Lady Mountbatten said, ‘he is far more royal than the Queen.’ But his impressive lineage was not enough to make him popular in the stuffy court circles of the late Forties and when the engagement was officially announced on 10 July many a stiff upper lip curled in disgust at the thought of ‘this interloper’ marrying

their Princess. If Philip thought their long and steady courtship was difficult, marriage was not automatically going to make life any easier.

At Balmoral that summer royal courtiers were ‘bloody to him’, according to the late Lord Brabourne. ‘They didn’t like him. They didn’t trust him and it showed.’

Philip was able to deal with it. He had lived on his wits since the age of eight, without homeland, home or available parents to support him, and the Balmoral bullies in the guise of English gentlemen meant nothing to him.

‘His childhood experiences taught him to be cautious, to swallow his gentler feelings,’ said his friend Michael Mann, a former Dean of Windsor. ‘He built a picket line around himself with machine guns on it. You are not allowed through that line unless you are totally trusted.’

To Elizabeth, her prince seemed like something out of a romantic novel. Self-contained, handsome and emotionally tough, he made no attempt to ingratiate himself with the Establishment’s old guard. This was just the bit of rebellion the Princess, so malleable in other ways, needed but lacked. With her he was gentle and caring, and she had been in love with him since she saw him again at the age of 13.

In hindsight her choice was right. Philip had no other commitments or baggage, he was always there for her and when his German relations came to stay, it was never for long.

‘If one of the standard English aristocrats had married the Queen,’ Richard Chartres, Bishop of London, once opined, ‘it would have bored everybody out of their minds.’ ➤





They were married at Westminster Abbey on 20 November 1947. The first four nights of their honeymoon were spent at Broadlands, the home of Prince Philip's uncle, Lord Mountbatten, but they were not alone. Four members of staff and a detective went with them. Despite the difficulties Philip had in adjusting to the constant presence of staff and courtiers – who either patronised him or treated him as an outsider – the first years of their married life were particularly happy ones. Until Clarence House was ready and they had moved in, the Princess stayed at Buckingham Palace while Philip was on a staff course at the Royal Naval College in Greenwich.

Weekends were spent away from prying eyes at the rented five-bedroom Windlesham Moor in Sunningdale, near Ascot, a comfortable but unimposing house set well back from the road. A dozen staff – small by royal standards – cared for them and when Prince Charles was born in November 1948 he spent most of his time there in the care of Nanny Lightbody.

When Philip left for a two-year posting in Malta, Elizabeth joined him, leaving their infant son behind. They stayed with Lord Mountbatten, then commander of the First Cruiser Squadron of the Mediterranean Fleet, and for the first and only time in her life the Princess took on the role of a naval officer's wife.

When Elizabeth returned home to England and had her second child, Princess Anne, in the August of 1950 she remained with the baby for three months before returning to Malta to be reunited with Philip. He had been promoted and given command of the frigate HMS *Magpie*.

The most private area of the Queen's life was and still is her role as mother, grandmother and now great-grandmother; few realise what a great disappointment it was to her that she was unable to have her planned family of four in a shorter time. When the death of her father in 1952 catapulted her to the throne, she was a 25-year-old wife and mother; Prince Charles and Princess Anne were three and one respectively. The heavy burden of monarchy that was thrust upon her inexperienced shoulders made it impossible for her to contemplate increasing her family; it was hard enough for her to find time to spend with the children she already had. Suddenly she had a job that meant the husband she loved and always put first had to come behind Britain and the Commonwealth, to say nothing of a difficult sister and a demanding widowed mother.

Philip's naval career was over, family life as they knew it was over and he was relegated to fourth place. It was only when he and the Queen decided that a 10-year gap between what was to be their first and second families was quite wide enough that along came Prince Andrew in 1960 with Edward following four years later.

In spite of their many differences – he's not keen on corgis or horse racing, is impatient, controversial and leads an independent life – the marriage is a good one. Philip bullies, sometimes bosses and often ignores people, but never his wife. They do have rows, but despite her dislike of confrontation she frequently stands up to him saying: 'Oh Philip, do shut up – you don't know what you're talking about.' And once, when he got into a fierce row with a friend over lunch at Balmoral, the Queen leaned



EPA/ALBERT WATSON/RETNA LTD

across the table and said: 'Go on, you tell him. No one ever stands up to him.'

But if the put-downs had an edge, they were delivered without malice. As the late David Hicks, husband of Lady Pamela Mountbatten, once told me: 'The Queen likes to get her word in, but it is touching the way she is always amused by what he has to say.'

Age, arthritis and ailments have quelled Prince Philip's renowned restlessness, if not improved his temper, but the Queen understands him. Those who work for them report they laugh a lot together – there is nothing that holds a marriage together better than that.

'He makes her laugh because some of the things he says and does and the way he looks at life is obviously slightly different than her, so together they're a great couple,' the Duke of Cambridge said in an interview earlier this year.

'One of the things I know that over the years they've loved is when things go wrong – they absolutely adore it because obviously everything always has to be right. But when things go wrong around them they're the first people to laugh.'

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** The Queen and Prince Philip arrive in a landau for the second day of Royal Ascot 2012

A service of thanksgiving followed by a carriage procession to Guildhall marked their Silver Wedding anniversary in 1972

Only days after leaving hospital in June, the Duke of Edinburgh was well enough to attend Her Majesty's Birthday Parade



SOPA IMAGES/LIAISON



The Queen and her husband at the start of the Diamond Jubilee River Pageant on 3 June

**BELOW:** With their family at Westminster Abbey in 1997 to celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary

The Queen was content to leave the majority of the upbringing of her children to her husband – she had little choice in the early days. But as she left the children to Philip, he left them to find their own path in life. Sadly they never developed the habit of talking to their parents except about the most trivial of things, so when Charles and Diana's marriage went wrong neither Philip nor the Queen appeared to know what to do, so they did nothing. When the reality of the situation hit them, it was too late to reverse their neutral position and take control.

Diana, Princess of Wales's death in 1997 was a major setback for the monarchy, partly because of their slowness to react to it. But when the funeral cortège went past the palace gates on its way to Westminster Abbey, the Queen bowed her head to the coffin as a gesture of respect. Prince Philip, who had tried to help Diana by writing her firm but encouraging letters, also played his part, walking behind her coffin with Earl Spencer, Prince Charles and Princes William and Harry.

'Philip is not sentimental,' said Lord Brabourne, 'but he is sensitive, profoundly so.'

The deaths of Diana, Princess Margaret and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother all affected the Queen in different ways, but throughout those difficult, emotional times Philip was always there for her. As Lord Brabourne said, 'Philip learnt the singularity of purpose from Mountbatten. The course that's set is the course that's followed. Philip is not a man to be deflected. When he gave Elizabeth his love and his loyalty, he gave them to her for life. He has not deviated from that.'

For Elizabeth and Philip, marriage has been as much about being apart as being together, but their unswerving loyalty to each other has made their union what it is.



M

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# Notebook

## FAIR HEIR

THE WORLD'S first exhibition on Henry, Prince of Wales (1594-1612), the boy who would have become King Henry IX had he not died at the age of 18, has just opened at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Marking the 400th anniversary of his death, *The Lost Prince: The Life and Death of Henry Stuart* looks at the extraordinary life of the eldest son of James I of England and VI of Scotland, and Anne of Denmark. His importance in life and the impact of his death was reflected by his funeral, which was considerably bigger than that of Queen Elizabeth I nine years earlier.

The remains of Henry's funeral effigy, from the collection of Westminster Abbey but not seen in public for nearly 200 years, is displayed alongside an engraving that shows it lying on his hearse, dressed in his clothes. One of the earliest-known autopsy reports – used to disprove rumours that the Prince was poisoned – is on view, together with a selection of musical and poetical tributes and a rare portrait of his sister showing her wearing a black armband.

A contemporary recorded the sight of the people of London lining the streets: 'There was to bee seene an innumerable multitude of all sorts of ages and degrees of men, women and children... some weeping, crying, howling, wringing of their hands, others halfe dead, sounding, sighing inwardly, others holding up their hands, passionately bewayling so great a losse, with Rivers, nay with an Ocean of teares.'

Taking place in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year, *The Lost Prince: The Life and Death of Henry Stuart* assembles for the first time an extraordinary range of objects associated with Henry, with major loans from the Royal Collection and a selection of manuscript letters and writing exercises in Henry's hand, including his school copy book, which has not been outside Trinity College, Cambridge for nearly 400 years.

The exhibition also includes some of the most important and beautiful works of art and culture produced and collected in the Jacobean period, including portraits by Hans Holbein, Nicholas Hilliard and Isaac Oliver, masque designs by Inigo Jones and a rarely seen manuscript by Ben Jonson in his own hand.

There are several extraordinary portraits of Henry by Robert Peake, who created an entirely new kind of royal



Prince Henry and Robert Devereux, 3rd Earl of Essex by Robert Peake, c. 1605, and, below, Henry, Prince of Wales by Isaac Oliver, c. 1610-12

portraiture for the young Prince, showing him in unusual and dramatic poses, as a man of action. Also featured are exquisite inlaid armour made for Henry, renaissance bronzes, old master paintings from his collection and books from his library.

Catharine MacLeod, curator of *The Lost Prince: The Life and Death of Henry Stuart*, says: 'This exhibition provides a wonderful opportunity to assemble, for the first time since Prince Henry's death 400 years ago, a group of paintings, drawings and other extraordinary objects, which give us a glimpse into the spectacular and culturally rich life of this exceptional Prince.'

'Henry, Prince of Wales was the focus of extraordinary developments in the visual arts, architecture, music and literature during the Jacobean period, which led to Britain's establishment as a cultural player on the world stage,' adds Sandy Nairne, Director of the National Portrait Gallery.

'We are delighted to be able to stage this revelatory exhibition.'



*'The Lost Prince: The Life and Death of Henry Stuart'* will run at the National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2, until 13 January 2013. Information: 020 7306 0055 or [www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk).



# CURTAIN UP!

To celebrate its 100th birthday, the Royal Variety Performance, in the presence of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, will this year be held for the first time at the Royal Albert Hall. LUCINDA GOSLING explains how it came into existence

IT IS A CENTURY and 84 performances since the first 'Royal Command Performance in the Art of Variety', was staged at the Palace Theatre on 1 July 1912 before the Queen's grandparents, King George V and Queen Mary. Expectations are high that this year's show, on 19 November, will be particularly star-studded.

The Royal Variety Performance remains an eclectic mix of talent across the arts, firmly rooted in the Edwardian music hall tradition.

It is a show where American movie legends have rubbed shoulders with British comedians, Shakespearean thespians have followed ventriloquists and The Beatles have appeared on the same bill as Marlene Dietrich. All the acts perform for free in support of the Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund, and many of the greatest names in show business have admitted to appalling nerves before going on stage. Few have turned down the chance to appear; taking part is after all considered a great honour.

Back in 1912, the Royal Command Performance was not an entirely novel concept. Opera and theatre galas attended by royalty had been held since the Victorian era to commemorate auspicious occasions and state visits. Only the previous year, Kaiser Wilhelm II and his first wife Augusta Viktoria had joined King George V and Queen Mary for a Command Performance of the play 'Money' at Drury Lane Theatre, the streets lined with cheering crowds as the royal carriages made their way to Covent Garden.

Later that month, the King was due to attend the Empire



Theatre in Edinburgh for a Royal Command Performance to coincide with his visit to the city, but a tragic incident days earlier led to the event's cancellation.

The Great Lafayette, an illusionist, perished when one of the lamps in his act set the stage alight. Nine other people also lost their lives in the fire. ➤

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** King George V, Queen Mary and members of their family in the royal box at the Palace Theatre

**ABOVE:** The acts on the bill at the very first 'Royal Command Performance in the Art of Variety' in 1912



The first performance to showcase 'variety' in front of royalty attracted a great deal of attention. The royal family turned out in force: seated in the box at the Palace Theatre, which had been liberally festooned with thousands of roses, were the King and Queen, his sister Princess Victoria, his aunts Princess Christian and Princess Henry of Battenberg, his cousins Prince Arthur of Connaught and Grand Duchess George of Russia, and his brothers-in-law, the Duke of Teck and Prince Alexander of Teck.

The bill showcased the greatest names in variety, including Harry Lauder, George Robey ('the Prime Minister of Mirth') and prima ballerina Anna Pavlova. But there was one glaring omission. Marie Lloyd – darling of the music halls and notorious for the *double entendres* she cleverly slipped into her songs – was considered too risqué to perform in front of royalty. In response, she staged a rival performance on the same night at a nearby theatre 'by command of the British public'. Mindful of Lloyd's skit on the show's name, the Royal Command Performance thereafter became the Royal Variety Performance.

Oswald Stoll, who masterminded the first show, was probably right to exclude Lloyd. When the celebrated male impersonator Vesta Tilley did her turn as 'Algry, the Piccadilly Johnnie', Queen Mary was seen to cover her face with her programme, disapproving of a woman wearing trousers and impersonating a man. The audience gave Miss Tilley a lukewarm reception. But good humour was soon restored with the following act, comedian Harry Tate, whose

routine provoked guffaws of laughter from His Majesty.

In fact, the royal party seemed to be of equal interest to the audience as the players themselves. Curious to see royalty's reaction to the popular entertainments enjoyed by their subjects, a whole section of the audience stood and stared at the occupants of the royal box.

The show was judged an unequivocal success by audience, critics and royalty alike. *The Stage* reported that 'royalty have officially set their seal of approval upon the work of that large body of people who are to be found in what is comprehensively termed the variety profession'.

Despite the positive reaction to this inaugural show, the outbreak of the First World War meant it would be seven more years before the Royal Variety Performance took place again. The show in 1919 was commanded by King George V 'to show his appreciation of the generous manner in which artistes of the variety stage have helped the numerous funds connected with the war'.

Held at the London Hippodrome, Harry Tate and George Robey were once again engaged to take part along with the ventriloquist act Arthur Prince and 'Jim', and Grock, the famous French clown. A spectacular finale, 'A Pageant of Peace' by Louis N. Parker, was accompanied by an orchestra conducted by Sir Edward Elgar. It featured 600 women dressed in white, with Ethel Hook as Britannia descending patriotically from a flight of steps at the rear of the stage to herald the singing of 'Land of Hope & Glory' before the National Anthem. ▶



CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT: King George VI and Queen Elizabeth attend the first Royal Variety Performance of their reign in November 1937. The Duke and Duchess of Kent accompany them

Princesses Margaret and Elizabeth with their parents at the London Palladium, 13 November 1950. It proved to be the King's last show

Princess Margaret, cigarette in hand, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Queen enjoy the 1953 Royal Variety Performance

Bob Hope and Sophie Tucker are among the artistes presented to Her Majesty after the 1962 show





The next performance, in 1921, was the start of an annual series of shows, an idea put forward by Harry Marlow, organiser of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund. The King became a life patron of the fund, the start of an unbroken line of royal patronage to the present day. Ticket sales were boosted with the news that the recently engaged Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles would be present; George V was especially pleased with the hornpipes played by G. S. Melvin, which transported him back to his Royal Navy days. The show raised £2,000, of which £50 came from the monarch, who paid for his own seat.

The R. V. P., as it is known in the business, has been staged every year since then with the exception of 1936 (the short-lived reign of Edward VIII), the duration of the Second World War, and 1956 (cancelled due to the Suez Crisis). In 1926, the show was broadcast on the wireless for the first time, enabling the entire nation to share in the fun and laughter. The year 1930 was significant, as the show was held at the London Palladium on Argyll Street, 'the home of variety', which went on to host the Royal Variety Performance more times than any other venue.

The 1935 performance, attended by George V in his Silver Jubilee year, was his last. 'It was a splendid show,' he declared. 'I enjoyed the "old-timers" immensely. A man of simple tastes, the populist content of the Royal Variety Performance appealed to the King's character.'

In 1937, the *Radio Times* announced that listeners to that year's Royal Variety Performance, in the presence of the new King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, would 'hear the longest variety broadcast that has ever been given'. The show included Gracie Fields, George Formby, Max Miller and the Crazy Gang. When Will Fytte turned to the royal box to say 'thank you', he began to sing 'A Hundred Pipers'. The lights dimmed, the stage revolved to show Edinburgh Castle and in the distance, out in Argyll Street, the sound of a hundred pipers could be heard, suddenly amplified as they entered the theatre and marched towards the stage for a rousing finale.

In 1960, the Crazy Gang, dressed as Yeomen of the Guard, welcomed the Queen as she arrived at the Victoria Palace

Theatre for the first televised Royal Variety Performance. Other acts that year included Liberace, Cliff Richard and Sammy Davis Junior, who gave a show-stopping performance. 'In eight electrifying minutes,' wrote *The Daily Sketch*, 'this entertainer made the word "star" seem inadequate.'

Another vintage year was 1963, though the Queen was not present as she was expecting her fourth child. Instead, the Queen Mother, Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon witnessed the hysteria surrounding 'four Liverpool lads with electric guitars and eccentric hair-dos', as *The Times* described The Beatles.

During the 'Fab Four's' set, the Queen Mother was observed to sway a little to the beat, even if John Lennon famously suggested that those in the cheap seats should clap their hands while the rest could rattle their jewellry.

In 1990 the Royal Variety Performance was dedicated to the Queen Mother on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Her daughter accompanied her. Sir John Gielgud gave a birthday tribute and the cast was even more starry than usual, with Roger Moore, Michael Caine, Dame Vera Lynn, Cliff Richard and Plácido Domingo among the performers.

Whichever member of the royal family is present at the Royal Variety Performance (and for the most part, it is the Queen herself), there is a certain fascination – evident in the original 1912 audience – in witnessing the royal family participate in this communal theatrical event, enjoying pop stars, talent-show winners and cheeky comedians along with everyone else and laughing at the same jokes as we do on television at home.

The incongruous sight in 2009 of the Queen meeting pop superstar Lady Gaga wearing one of her typically outlandish stage costumes is all part of the Royal Variety Performance experience. Over the years, a number of shows have been regarded the 'best yet'. This month, as the Royal Variety Performance celebrates its centenary in Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee year, are we about to witness the 'best ever'?

CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW:  
The Queen meets  
American singer Lady  
Gaga at Blackpool Opera  
House in December 2009

Actress Miriam  
Margolyes makes the  
Prince of Wales laugh  
backstage at the London  
Coliseum in 2006

The Queen Mother is  
amused by comedy duo  
Eric Morecambe (right)  
and Ernie Wise in 1966



PHOTOGRAPH BY PAUL MURRAY

# *My Royal Appointments*

In an excerpt from his latest book, photographer KENT GAVIN talks about two of his favourite ladies



PHOTO: KENT GAVIN



WHEN THE QUEEN MOTHER appeared in public she was usually smiling and had an infectious wit and charm that bewitched everyone. Always wearing floaty pastel shades, she was couturier Norman Hartnell's biggest fan and his favourite client. A feel of the spring or summer was always around her – perfect for attending the flower shows that she loved.

Whenever I was fortunate enough to be near her she was extremely helpful. A real PR genius she could be tough as old boots too, and her sense of fun was an absolute delight.

The Queen is terrific. She instinctively understands what photographers want and tries to oblige, especially when travelling abroad. Likewise the Queen Mother, who was as popular with members of the press as she was with the public.

'Very often there were no other photographers around, or perhaps my peers simply did not have my vision, as was the case with my award-winning photograph of Prince William's christening, when I captured a magic moment as his great-grandmother proudly cradled him in her arms.'

'The photo-shoot at Buckingham Palace, attended by a

TV crew, one other photographer and myself, was drawing to a close. I was surprised that no official picture of the Queen Mother and William had been requested, especially as it was her 82nd birthday, and so, in an act that some might consider a serious breach of protocol, I addressed the Queen personally and suggested the sitting take place.

'Her Majesty agreed with my observation and was pleased to accommodate my wish. Another iconic royal image was created.'

M

**FROM FAR LEFT:** The Queen Mother acknowledges the cheers of well-wishers outside Clarence House on her 93rd birthday

Prince Harry's first day at Wetherby School in west London, following in his big brother's footsteps

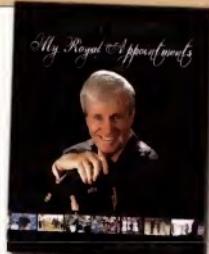
The Queen attends a gala at Earl's Court in London in 1992 to mark the 40th anniversary of her accession

Kent Gavin with one of the *My Royal Appointments* presentation sets that were sent last month to the Queen, the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall, and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Only three were made

## MAJESTY READER OFFER

Kent Gavin first photographed the Queen and other members of the royal family in the 1960s; since then his work has taken him all over the United Kingdom and to many countries around the world. He became chief photographer at the *Daily Mirror* and won numerous awards during his illustrious career.

In this stylish compilation of his favourite photographs, Kent talks about the historic events that he has attended and the royal friends he has made along the way.



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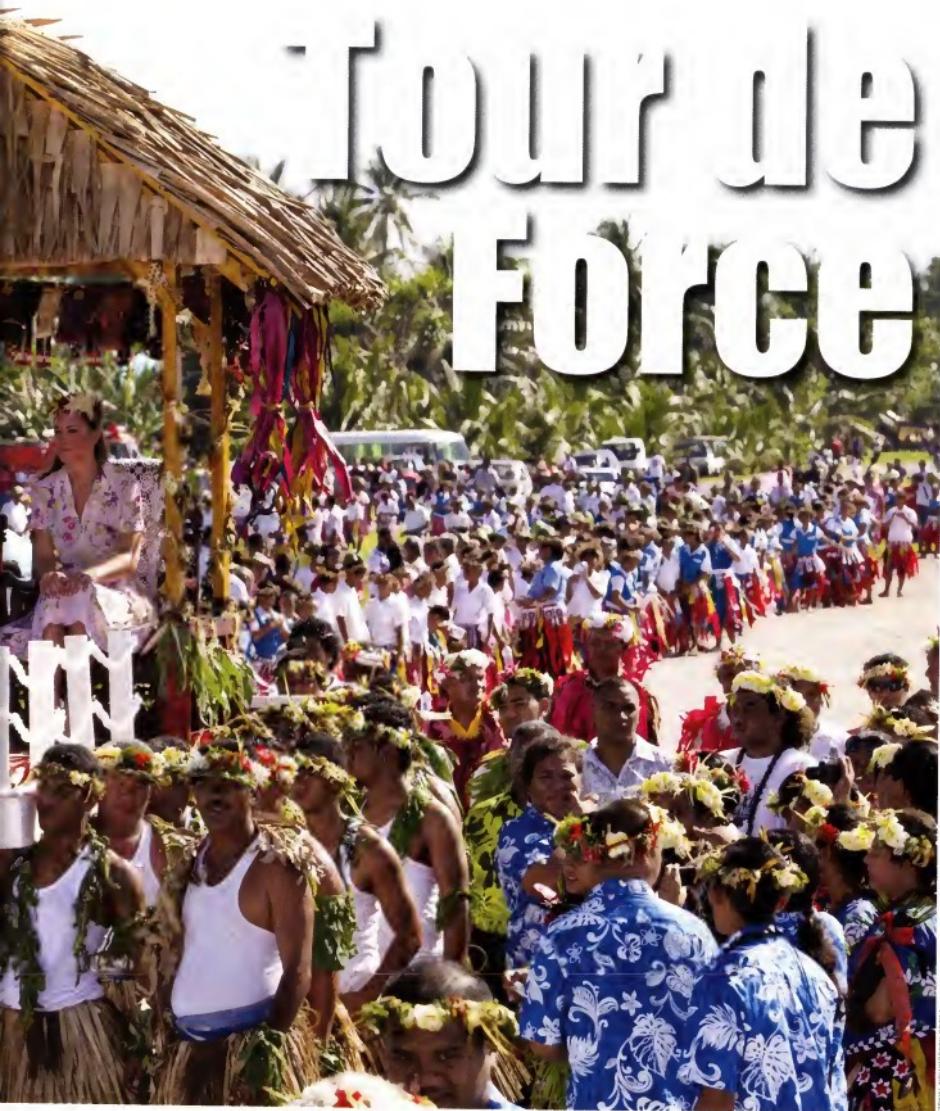
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The Incredible scene as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are carried to their plane by Tuvalu Islanders



It was hard to imagine a better trip than the one they enjoyed in Canada and California, but the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's Asia-Pacific tour was manna from heaven for royal watchers. RICHARD PALMER, royal correspondent of the *Daily Express*, was among them

# tour de force



© ZUMA PRESS/REX FEATURES

WILLIAM AND KATE'S SECOND overseas tour, after their official visit to North America last year, had everything: glamour, controversy, exotic photographs, a dancing duchess, and the sight of the future King and his wife stepping up a gear and taking on new responsibilities on behalf of the Queen.

It was enough to make some of the photographers, often quick to see the negative side, positively ecstatic. 'We've waited 20 years for these sorts of pictures. We won't see the likes of this again,' said one exhausted, sweaty but happy

snapper, a veteran of the Diana days, sitting in a tropical hotel bar at the end of the tour. 'It's all downhill from here.'

Not necessarily where this couple are concerned. The royal story, stagnant for so long, has taken off since they got engaged two years ago and who can say where it will lead?

Their visit to Singapore, Malaysia, the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu was on behalf of the Queen to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee in the four Commonwealth countries, the last two of which are proud to count the 86-year-old monarch as their head of state. ➤



**CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:**  
**The Duke and Duchess**  
**admire the *Vanda 'William Catherine'* orchid named**  
**in their honour at the**  
**Botanic Gardens**

**They are also shown the**  
***Dendrobium 'Memoria***  
**Princess Diana' orchid**  
**created when William's**  
**mother was still alive**

**Kate wears a purple,**  
**pink and white patterned**  
**dress by Singapore-born**  
**designer Prabal Gurung**  
**for a state dinner given**  
**by President Tony Tan**  
**Keng Yam and his wife,**  
**Mary, at the Istana**

**OPPOSITE PAGE FROM**  
**TOP: Kate flexes her**  
**biceps after pushing in**  
**the last fan blade of a**  
**Rolls-Royce jet engine at**  
**their Singapore factory**

**She and William pay a**  
**poignant visit to Kranji**  
**War Cemetery before**  
**flying to Malaysia**





Befitting such a celebration, there were smiles aplenty but also a more formal, grown-up series of engagements than on their first tour last year. And then, mid-way through the nine-day trip, came news that the Duchess had been photographed topless while sunbathing on a brief holiday in southern France a few days earlier. The resulting controversy cast a shadow over the rest of the tour, although after the shock and anger had worn off, the couple put on a brave face and smiled their way through it.

In Singapore, they began with a poignant tribute to William's mother by inspecting a flower planted in her honour three weeks after her death. Diana, Princess of Wales, had been due to visit the city-state in September 1997 and view her white orchid at the National Botanic Gardens, but her death in a Paris car crash the previous month meant she never got to see it. Looking at the *Dendrobium 'Memoria Princess Diana'*, a sombre William said: 'It's beautiful, beautiful. That's very nice.'

Naming orchids after prominent visitors is a Singapore tradition and the couple viewed *Vanda 'William Catherine'*, a purple and white one planted in their honour, as well as one named after the Queen in 1972. In a nod to her hosts, Kate wore a Jenny Packham-designed kimono-style pink dress with an orchid pattern.

The royal couple, who stayed in a luxury suite amid the colonial splendour of Raffles Hotel, were later given a guard of honour welcome at the Istana, the official residence of President Tony Tan Keng Yam, before attending a glittering state banquet.

With Kate dazzling in a £710 purple and white floral patterned dress by Singapore-born designer Prabal Gurung, they dined on a seven-course Chinese meal and the Duke paid tribute to the historic ties between Britain and its former colony, which won independence in 1965.

The next morning came one of those glorious moments that reporters dream about. On a noisy walkabout among fans chanting 'Will, you're brill; Kate, you're great', someone asked William how many children he wanted. In a rare unguarded moment, he replied: 'Two.'

Or at least we think he did. If truth be told it was hearsay. A girl in the crowd said she

had heard him say it to a little boy but nobody could trace the boy. In any case, the story, never denied, went around the world. It was thought to be the first time that either William or Kate had put a figure publicly on the number of offspring they would like.

In the 33C heat and high humidity, the sweat was pouring off William and some in the 1,000-strong crowd fainted during a three-hour wait to see the couple. Kate, wearing a white Alexander McQueen broderie anglaise suit, was spotted holding a packet of antiseptic wipes, hidden beneath her clutchbag, after shaking hands with so many fans.

At a new £350 million Rolls-Royce factory, where Kate was photographed for the first time wearing wraparound safety goggles, the couple flew the flag for UK business. It was quickly emerging that this was a tour that in most parts could equally have been done by William's grandparents or father and stepmother. ➤



A senior royal aide acknowledged the new seriousness after the fun and informality of their trip to Canada and the US and their determination to take on more heavyweight engagements. 'It's certainly something they're very aware of. They want to do the job seriously and do it commensurate with their age and status,' he said.

The next morning, the Duchess, in a bespoke Jenny Packham duck egg blue dress, sheltered from the blistering sun beneath a parasol and joined William at a moving ceremony in Kranji Cemetery to pay tribute to 24,000 war dead. They then flew to the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur, where Kate notched up another milestone, making her first overseas speech, during a heart-rending visit to dying and seriously ill children at a hospice.

**RIGHT:** The Duchess of Cambridge makes her first speech on foreign soil, which she wrote herself, at Hospis Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur. 'I was so nervous,' she later admitted

**BELOW:** Kate, royal patron of East Anglia's Children's Hospices, chats with terminally-ill patient Zakwan Anuar, who turned 15 two days earlier, and his mother, Norizan Sulong

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** On their first evening in Malaysia the royal couple attend a dinner given by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and Raja Permaisuri Agong at Istana Negara

The Duchess's dress by Alexander McQueen features the national flower of Malaysia, the hibiscus, in gold detail





Her speech was a more accomplished performance than her first, rather nervous, effort at a hospice in Ipswich in March, but what was perhaps more memorable was the way she lit up the day for the young patients at Hospis Malaysia, many of whom had been listless until she arrived.

Among them was Zakwan Anuar, 15, a very sick leukaemia patient who had postponed a blood transfusion to see her and awoke to tell the Duchess she was 'very pretty'.

'Thank you. You're very handsome,' replied Kate, who also told him he was 'very, very brave'.

His tearful mother, Norizan Sulong, had worried he would not survive long enough to meet the Duchess.

'It was as if the leukaemia had gone,' she said. 'I thought I had lost him. He doesn't have long.' Sadly, Zakwan died two weeks later.

That night the Duchess of Cambridge glittered in an exquisitely embroidered floor-length bespoke Alexander McQueen dress at a lavish state dinner given by the King of Malaysia – the Yang di-Pertuan Agong – at the opulent new Istana Negara palace in Kuala Lumpur. ➤



**CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT:**  
A lighter moment for  
the royal couple as they  
prepare to enter Kuala  
Lumpur's Assyakirin  
Mosque on 14 September

In keeping with Muslim  
tradition the Duchess  
keeps her head covered  
throughout the visit

William and Kate walk  
in a city-centre park to  
meet local people and  
view cultural activities

**OPPOSITE PAGE:**  
The Duchess enjoys a  
cuppa as she and her  
husband attend the  
Diamond Jubilee tea  
party at the residence  
of the British High  
Commissioner

The strain shows on  
William's face as he and  
Kate walk to their plane  
at Kuala Lumpur airport

The Cambridges seem  
more relaxed the next  
day as they are winched  
130ft up a tree in the  
rainforest at Danum  
Valley research centre  
in Sabah, Borneo





Kate awoke the next morning to a crisis. Grim-faced courtiers, roused at 5am to be told of French *Close-up* magazine's plan to publish topless photographs of her, briefed the couple over breakfast at the British High Commission. Pity the poor aides who had to tell them.

It was the Duchess's misfortune that the news of the embarrassing photographs broke on the morning that she and William were visiting a mosque for the first time, a landmark for a future king and queen who will have millions of Muslim subjects in Britain and around the Commonwealth.

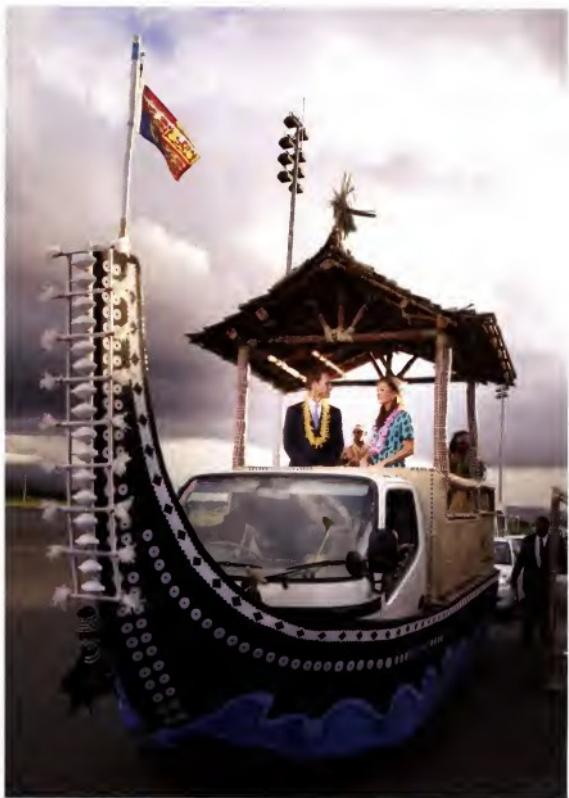
Kate, wrapped in a headscarf and dressed demurely in a matching grey Beulah dress, inevitably evoked comparisons with Diana as she toured the mosque in her stocking feet, asking numerous questions about Islam.

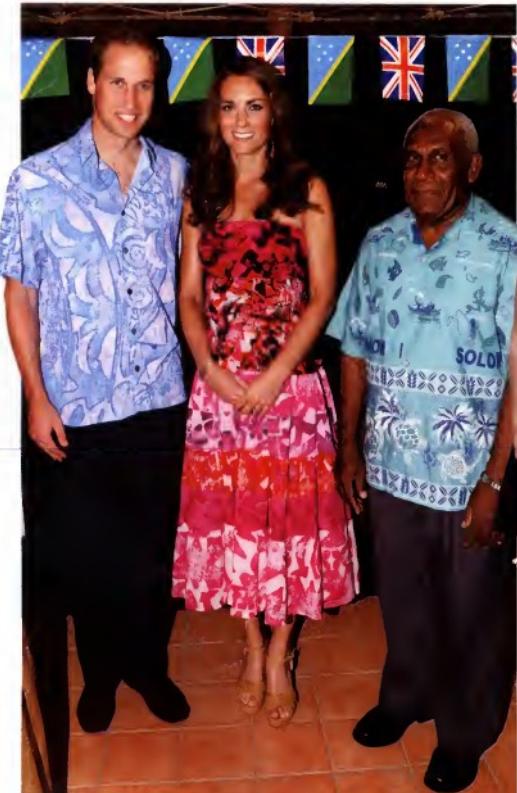
Always self-composed in public, she smiled her way through it, as the world's cameras focused on her, looking for signs of stress and upset. Behind the scenes, aides told how the couple were 'hurt, shocked, furious and disgusted' and immediately drew comparisons with the treatment meted out to William's mother. He was less able to keep a check on his emotions, stomping head down, jaw clenched to put on a show and smile for the cameras.

Her steeliness and grace under pressure won plaudits from veteran royal watchers who saw in her another strong Windsor woman to follow Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and the current monarch, Elizabeth II.

In the Malaysian state of Sabah, on the island of Borneo, she and William were hoisted up 130ft to explore the rainforest on a rope canopy walkway before flying the next day to the Solomon Islands and its capital, Honiara, on Guadalcanal. ▶







© PA PHOTOS/REX FEATURES \$500+ £200/ALAMY

In the former British protectorate, they were given a spectacular South Pacific welcome by warriors in loincloths and grass skirts when they landed in a charter plane. They received a traditional challenge, a *tuku baka* – the Solomon Islands' equivalent of a Maori *haka* – by tribal elders and warriors brandishing spears, axes, bows and slingshots as drummers pounded out a beat.

Father Henry Teho, an Anglican priest and tribal elder wearing a traditional mat skirt made from grass, tree bark and pandanus leaves, explained: 'When you used to come to the Solomon Islands it was a challenge that we'll kill you and eat you but now it's just a challenge saying you are from a different culture.'

'We are very honoured to be greeting the Prince. We just heard about Kate when she got married to the Prince. She is the chosen one. That makes her very important.'

Police estimated more than 70,000 people, the largest turnout of the tour, lined the five-mile route from the airport to Honiara to greet the royal couple as they drove past on a carnival-style float, a flat-bed Toyota truck decorated as a war canoe.

That evening, at an outdoor state banquet, the couple accidentally committed a diplomatic gaffe when they wore what they thought were traditional brightly coloured Solomon Islands outfits left by their hosts in their hotel bedroom. Unfortunately, it transpired they were actually presents for them from a designer based in the Cook Islands, 2,762 miles away. The argument over who was to blame for the mix-up was still ongoing 10 days later.

In Honiara on their second day, the Duchess, wearing a £180 yellow Jaeger dress, was hailed as an island princess when she was crowned unexpectedly with a floral headdress made from exotic frangipani and bougainvillea. ▶

**ABOVE, FROM FAR LEFT:** The Duchess, dressed for church, is garlanded on her arrival in the Solomon Islands

**The Cambridges travel to the cathedral in Honiara on a *tomoko* (war canoe) mounted on a white truck**

**The couple with Sir Frank Kabui, Governor-General of the Solomon Islands, before a traditional state dinner**

**William and Kate are barefoot when they arrive on the island of Tavanipupu the following afternoon**

**FROM FAR LEFT:** The radiant Duchess, wearing a crown of frangipani and bougainvillea, attends a reception for local women's groups while William is at a Commonwealth youth conference and meeting children playing football

**Kate tours the cultural village and is pleased to receive a carved canoe from a young resident**

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are carried shoulder high from their plane on arrival at Funafuti, Tuvalu

**BELOW:** Prince William uses a machete to open a coconut from a tree planted by the Queen 30 years earlier

Kate and her husband, in matching floral headgear, quench their thirst with refreshing coconut milk





FROM TOP: The dancing Duchess shows she has all the right moves as she shimmies at a cultural event in the tribal hall

'Cathleen' exchanges a few words with William and uses a new fan to keep her cool in the heat of the South Pacific evening

Everywhere she looked that day, there were bare-breasted maidens, a potentially tricky photo opportunity as the topless pictures row rumbled on, but the Duchess continued as if she was meeting the ladies of Knightsbridge in twin sets and pearls.

In the evening though came blessed relief: a romantic getaway to a paradise island, where the couple were able to enjoy a few hours of down time in a £780-a-night secluded thatched leaf bungalow away from the cameras.

They travelled to the private island resort of Tavanipupu, a former coconut plantation, in an ornately-decorated dugout war canoe escorted by warriors. Alongside them were men swimming inside wire-framed replicas of sharks, long worshipped in the islands and whose spirits were traditionally evoked on raiding parties.

When the cameras had gone, the couple went snorkelling in the idyllic Marau Sound lagoon and sat eating dinner on their own private jetty in a tropical downpour. Pamela Kimberley, the resort's co-owner, said: 'I was astounded at how down to earth and lovely they were. They seemed to love it. They were happy and relaxed.'

William and Kate returned to the capital the next morning and, after a brief farewell at the airport, flew on to their final destination, the tiny island nation of Tuvalu. They were carried shoulder high off their plane on a double throne by 25 grass-skirted men when they arrived on Funafuti, Tuvalu's main island. ➤

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, both dressed in brightly coloured grass skirts, dance the night away in the South Seas







At least half of the population turned out to greet them in a ceremony echoing the welcome given to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at the start of Tuvalu's last royal visit in 1982, when warriors transported them from the royal yacht *Britannia* in canoes.

Inside a hall, William and Kate were honoured with a rousing tribal welcome. Crown garlands of frangipani flowers were placed on their heads during what is known as a *falekaupule* ceremony.

'*Talofa*' – 'Hello,' said William, before recalling that iconic reception given to his grandmother 30 years ago. 'It is the highlight of the Diamond Jubilee tour on her behalf. We are delighted to be here. Your wonderful welcome has to be the most original and quite literally uplifting ever. We will both remember it and the joy and happiness of what has followed for the rest of our lives.'

It got even better. That night we were treated to images of a dancing duke and duchess. It was 'some enchanted evening' indeed for the second-in-line to the throne and his wife as they danced in colourful grass skirts to the sounds of the South Pacific.

With skirts made from pandanus leaves tied over their outfits, William and his dancing queen shimmied and swayed their hips as they joined six communities at a *fatele* party where groups try to out-sing or out-dance each other. Time after time, Kate, wearing an Alice Temperley dress beneath her grass skirt, got to her feet to join the performers.

William cooled his wife with a fan but left it late to try out his moves. When they danced together, they could not stop laughing, liberally sprinkling a bottle of Paul Smith London for Men over performers in keeping with a tradition for dignitaries to spray perfume on the dancers.

Asked how it had gone, William replied: 'Good, really good – an amazing evening.'

They stayed overnight in a small apartment loaned to them by an Australian naval officer away on leave and then left the next day carried aloft again by islanders. It was perhaps rather fitting that after the low point of the topless photos episode they ended the tour as they began it: on a high.

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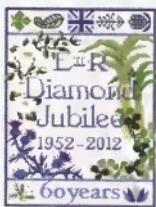
ABOVE: William and Kate enjoy an Island Dinner at Tausoa Lima Falekaupule

The people of Tuvalu give the Cambridges a send-off they will never forget



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For the past 200 years, royal occasions have generated an abundance of commemorative souvenirs. At the time of Queen Victoria's coronation in 1838, materials used by manufacturers for souvenirs were mostly pottery or paper, although there was a coronation jigsaw puzzle. Nowadays the range of royal souvenirs has extended to thermos flasks, gas lighters and commemorative clocks, even a celebratory knitting kit. This Gibsons Jigsaw Puzzle is made from 100 per cent recycled, high-quality puzzle board. Measures 68.5cm x 49cm when complete.

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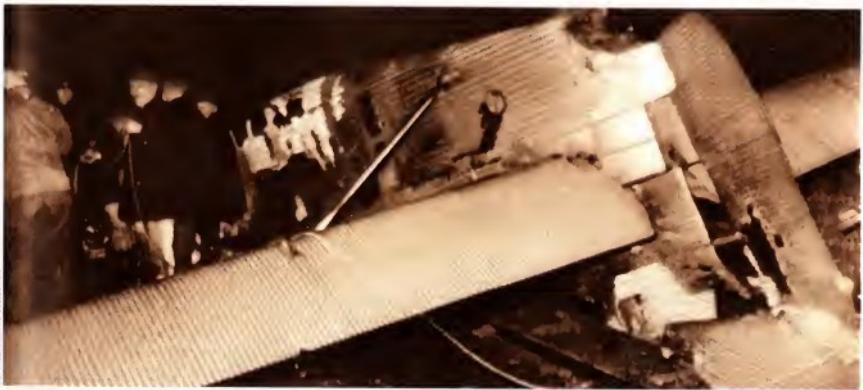


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# Flight OO-AUB

Seventy-five years ago this month, what should have been the happiest of royal occasions was marred by a tragedy of unimaginable proportions, as CORYNE HALL recounts



PICTURE: PRIVATE COLLECTION



**O**N A COLD afternoon in November 1937 Prince Ludwig of Hesse and his fiancée, the Hon. Margaret Campbell Geddes, waited at Croydon airfield for their wedding guests to arrive by plane from Germany. As they paced up and down, wondering why the flight was delayed, an official asked the Prince to step into the office. There had been an accident.

The Hesses had seen their fair share of tragedy. They were descended from Queen Victoria's second daughter, Princess Alice, who in 1862 married Prince Ludwig of Hesse, later Grand Duke Ludwig IV of Hesse and by Rhine. Of Alice's seven children, Irene, Princess Henry of Prussia, had two haemophilic sons; Elisabeth, Grand Duchess Serge of Russia, was killed by the Bolsheviks in 1918; Frederik ('Frittie') died aged three after falling from a window; Alix, wife of the ill-fated Tsar Nicholas II, was killed at Ekaterinburg with her family; and four-year-old May died on 16 November 1878 in the diphtheria outbreak which also carried off Princess Alice.

Her son Ernst Ludwig, who succeeded his father as Grand Duke in 1892, lost his daughter Elizabeth from typhoid on 16 November 1903 at the age of eight. Only the

descendants of the eldest daughter, Victoria, wife of Prince Louis of Battenberg, later Marquess of Milford Haven, somehow escaped the series of tragedies in which the date 16 November stood out all too clearly.

In 1905, Grand Duke Ernst Ludwig married as his second wife Princess Eleonore of Solms-Hohensolms-Lich. After the fall of the monarchy in 1918 he refused to abdicate, remaining in his palace and carving out a useful role for his family in various charitable and cultural organisations until his death on 9 October 1937.

Prince Ludwig, Ernst Ludwig's younger son, was due to marry on 23 October and it was his father's dying wish that the wedding should go ahead as planned. The ceremony, which would take place in London, was postponed until 20 November and everyone hoped it would be a happy occasion after the recent sadness. ➤

**ABOVE:** Probably the only photograph to be taken of George Donatus and his wife Cecile with all three children

**LEFT:** The Junkers Ju 52 aircraft after the accident in which the six members of the Hesse family perished



On 16 November, Ludwig's elder brother, George Donatus, his wife Cecile (a daughter of Prince Andrew of Greece and Princess Alice of Battenberg), their sons – six-year-old Ludwig and Alexander, four, who were to be pages – the Dowager Grand Duchess Eleonore, Baron Joachim von Riedesel (the best man) and the children's nurse Lina Hahn took off from Frankfurt aerodrome. With them also were the Hessian pearls and Princess Alice's Honiton lace wedding veil, used at every family marriage since her own nuptials. Left behind was the couple's beloved daughter, Johanna, born the previous year.

Most Europeans considered air travel unreliable when compared with rail or sea journeys, especially at that time of year. Added to this was the complication that Cecile was eight months pregnant. Nevertheless, George Donatus was a fearless flyer, while Antoine Lambotte, the pilot of the three-engine Junkers Ju 52 airliner, was one of the most senior captains of the Belgian airline Sabena with over 600,000 miles' flying experience. According to *The Times*, the service from Frankfurt was scheduled to call at Brussels on its way to London but, since there were no passengers to alight or board, it flew on without landing. ➤

**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** The Dowager Grand Duchess Eleonore of Hesse, mother of Don and Ludwig

Baron Joachim von Riedesel, who was to have been  
Prince Ludwig's best man

Nurse Lina Hahn with the younger Prince Ludwig in  
a photograph published in a memorial booklet

Military personnel stand guard over the royal remains  
as they lie in state in the Darmstadt mausoleum

Prince Philip, second from right, front row, attends the  
funeral of his sister, her husband and their two sons



PHOTOGRAPH BY GENEVIEVE DE LAURENTIIS



ROYAL COLLECTIONS



PRIVATE COLLECTION

The plane approached Ostend in brilliant sunshine, but suddenly a dense fog came in from the sea. Visibility was down to 20 feet and the staff at Steene aerodrome, warned by wireless of the pilot's intention to land, fired rockets. The aircraft could be heard circling over the town.

As the pilot attempted to land, the tip of a wing hit the top of a brickworks' chimney. The wing and an engine were ripped away, crashing through the factory roof as the remainder of the plane flipped over and hit the ground in the nearby brickfield, bursting into flames on impact. Ostend fire brigade and the Red Cross were soon on the scene but nobody could get near the fire. There were no survivors.

Later, at Croydon aerodrome, Prince Ludwig and Miss Geddes were quietly informed of the tragedy. The Dowager Duchess had been due to stay with her sister-in-law the Marchioness of Milford Haven (Cecile's grandmother) at Kensington Palace, George Donatus and Cecile with her uncle, Lord Louis Mountbatten, at his Park Lane apartment. His daughter Patricia (now Countess Mountbatten of Burma) recalled how she saw a poster announcing the crash as she walked home from school to meet, as she thought, her relatives.

The two cars sent to Croydon by her father returned with only Ludwig and Margaret, prostrate with grief. At Gordonstoun School the headmaster had the terrible task of breaking to 16-year-old Prince Philip of Greece the news of his sister Cecile's death.

As word of the tragedy spread, Margaret's father Sir Auckland (later Baron) Geddes asked the press to 'respect the deep grief of both Prince Ludwig and my daughter. Prince Ludwig has just lost his father. Today his mother and his only brother and sister-in-law and their children have been killed. The family has been practically wiped out, and he is left to face the situation.'

At a family conference it was decided to hold the wedding the following day, in strict privacy. The Prince

would now need the support of his bride, Sir Auckland explained to the press.

The sombre ceremony went ahead at St Peter's, Eaton Square, at eight o'clock the following morning, with the bride dressed in a black suit and veil instead of the Bavarian peasant dress that she had planned originally. Lord Mountbatten was best man.

Later that day the newlyweds crossed the English Channel in rough seas to visit the crash site. At Ostend hospital the coffins had been laid out and covered with flowers by nuns. Prince Ludwig had the sad task of identifying his relatives.

The next day the bride and bridegroom accompanied the coffins on the train back to Darmstadt, the Hesse family seat north of Frankfurt. Airmen carried the coffins into the station's Ducal Hall, which was hung with laurel, for a short service conducted by the pastor of Schloss Wolfsgarten.

Representatives of the armed forces, police and National Socialist organisations marched in procession as the coffins, draped in the Hessian flag, were borne through the streets on gun carriages to the mausoleum and cemetery at the Rosenhöhe park. Among the mourners were Prince Philip and his uncle, Louis Mountbatten. After lying in state in the mausoleum, the five members of the Hesse family were buried on 23 November.

But that was not the end of the story. Ludwig and Margaret adopted their niece Johanna but in June 1939 she too died, from meningitis.

Prince and Princess Ludwig remained childless but in 1964 he became godfather to Prince Edward (now Earl of Wessex), the English version of Ludwig ('Louis') among the baby's Christian names serving as a reminder of the Hesse family and the terrible tragedy of 16 November 1937. M

ABOVE: Prince and Princess Ludwig of Hesse with Johanna in 1939, the year in which she died from meningitis

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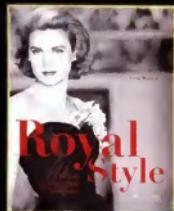
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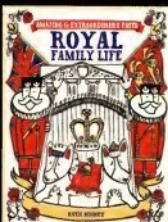
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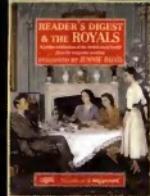
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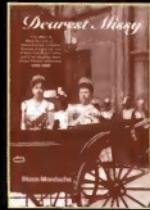
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Lively correspondence between Marie Alexandrovna, Grand Duchess of Russia, Duchess of Edinburgh and of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and her daughter, Marie, Crown Princess of Romania (covering the period between 1879 and 1900). Hardback.

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## The Royal Hellenic Dynasty B544

A photographic history of the Greek royal family from King George I to King Constantine II, from the collections of Queens Olga, Sophie, Elisabeth and Frederica and others, including Princess Nicholas of Greece and Queen Helen of Romania. Hardback.

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## Marie: A French Princess In Denmark B558

The unorthodox Princess Marie of Orléans married into the Danish royal family and became the 'sister-in-law of Europe'. Unique pictures of this colourful but now largely forgotten Princess are combined with her incredible life story in which she became part of European history, both royal and otherwise. Hardback.

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## Romanovs Revisited B387

David Cripps' latest album of photographs, both formal and informal, gives the reader a glimpse into the privileged world of Tsar Nicholas II and his extended family. Hardback.

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## Diamonds: A Jubilee Celebration B562

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## The Illustrated Diamond Jubilee B556

Drawing on beautiful and rare material, a charming commemorative 'bookazine' to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's reign over 60 years, telling the story of Her Majesty's life from a unique perspective. Softback.

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## Royalty Between The Wars B360

William Mead Lator shows a cross-section of royalty: the famous as well as the obscure, the reigning as well as the non-reigning. Hardback.

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## Dear Ellen... B548

Royal Europe through the photograph albums of Grand Duchess Helen Vladimirovna of Russia and the collections of her descendants. Arturo Beeche has compiled a record of the lives of Helen and her husband, Prince Nicholas of Greece, as well as that of their daughters: Olga of Yugoslavia, Elizabeth of Toerring-Jettenbach and Marina, Duchess of Kent. Hardback.

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## The Queen's Year B494

A season-by-season look at the engagements that make up Her Majesty's year, including occasions such as the State Opening of Parliament and visits of foreign heads of state, and more 'private' events such as garden parties and Royal Ascot. Small format hardback.

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## Royal Wedding Dresses B533

This is the lavishly illustrated story of 10 remarkable wedding dresses spanning two centuries, beginning with the marriage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1840. Softback.

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## Hvidøre B557

The story of the purchase and renovation of Queen Alexandra and Empress Marie Feodorovna's villa on the Danish coast, their many royal visitors and finally the sale of this forgotten home. Original illustrations from a private collection. Hardback.

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## The Elizabeth II Pocket Bible B560

If you're a fan of the Queen or just fascinated by the British monarchy then *The Elizabeth II Pocket Bible* contains everything you need to know and more! For example, discover what she enjoys doing on her 'days off', what her royal duties include and the role Her Majesty plays in society today. Small format hardback.

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## The Four Graces

B532

The amazing story of Queen Victoria's Hessian granddaughters - Princesses Victoria, Elisabeth, Irene and Alix of Hesse - who were also known as 'The Four Graces'. Included in this unique work by Ilana D. Miller are biographies of these tragic sisters, all of whom were destined to play important roles in history. Hardback.

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## The Golden Book Of Royalty

B225

Robert Golden's best-selling second book of photographs and anecdotes on the lesser-known members of the royal family. Hardback.

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## Bourbon-Orléans, A Family Album

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Prince Michael of Greece, son of Princess Françoise of Orléans, presents hitherto unseen pictures of her ancestors. This album contains not only the family in France but also the associated families in Belgium, Württemberg, Denmark, Bulgaria, Spain and Brazil. Hardback.

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## The Unknown Habsburgs

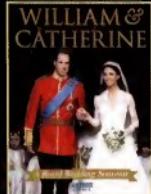
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Tuscany was once an independent grand duchy, ruled over by a branch of the Habsburg dynasty. Grand Duke Leopold II was its last proper ruler and the ancestor of all the people who appear in this book, with images from private and official albums. Hardback.

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## William & Catherine

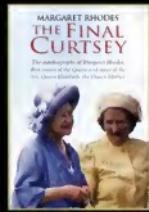
B530

The updated version of *William & Kate: A Royal Souvenir* reveals the public and private faces of the young couple: their friendship and courtship, shared interests, family backgrounds, careers, social life and aspirations for the future. Softback.

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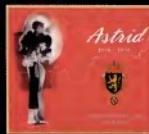
B531

This is the intimate and revealing autobiography of the Hon. Margaret Rhodes, a niece of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. In 1990 she was appointed a lady-in-waiting to her aunt, and acted as her companion in later years. Hardback. Softback.

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## Astrid

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Antoinette Ramsay and Ted Roscoe have compiled a fitting tribute to the 'beautiful, good-hearted, admired and beloved' Astrid, Princess of Sweden and later Queen of the Belgians, to mark the centenary of her birth. Hardback.

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## Queen Victoria's Children

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## Victoria Revealed

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## Marie Of Romania

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# ROYAL DIARY

## 31 October – 2 November

The President of the Republic of Indonesia and Mrs Yudhoyono will pay a state visit to the United Kingdom and stay at Buckingham Palace.

## 1 November

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will unveil the Diamond Jubilee stained glass window at the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, Savoy Hill, London WC2. The Earl of Wessex will attend the David and June Gordon Memorial Trust's talk at Harrow School, Harrow, Middlesex.

The Countess of Wessex, Patron, Vision 2020: The Right To Sight, will attend the Orbis 30th anniversary celebrations at the Royal Hospital, London SW3. The Countess of Wessex will attend the WheelPower Dinner, Bridgewater House, 14 Cleveland Row, London SW1.

The Princess Royal, Patron, St. Helena Diocesan Association, will attend a luncheon at Oxford Diocesan Church House, North Hinksey Lane, Botley, Oxford.

The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, will attend the United Kingdom Equestrian Awards at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London W2.

The Princess Royal will attend the Project Management Institute United Kingdom Chapter's Synergy 2012 conference at Indigo2, Peninsula Square, London SE10.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union and Patron, London Scottish Football Club, will attend a Friends of Scottish Rugby dinner at the Landmark Hotel, 222 Marylebone Road, London NW1.

The Duke of Kent will visit ICC Solutions, St. James Business Centre, Warrington, Cheshire.

The Duke of Kent, President, will attend the Mersey Weaver District Scout Council presentation ceremony of The Queen's Awards for Voluntary Service at Heath Business Park, Runcorn, Cheshire.

The Duke of Kent will visit the community regeneration project at Castlefields, Runcorn, Cheshire.

## 2 November

The Earl of Wessex, Patron, London Mozart Players, will attend a concert, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, Surrey. The Countess of Wessex, Colonel-in-Chief, will present medals at the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps parade, Normandy Barracks, Pirbright, Surrey.

The Princess Royal, Honorary Court Member, Fishmongers' Company, will attend the 'Mediterranean Diet Revised' conference at Fishmongers' Hall, London EC4.

The Princess Royal, Patron, British School of Osteopathy, will attend an awards ceremony at the Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock, London EC4.

## 3-5 November

The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall will visit Papua New Guinea as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

## 3 November

Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, Royal Colonel, 3 The Rifles, will attend a medals parade at Redford Infantry Barracks, Edinburgh.

## 5-10 November

The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall will visit Australia as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

## 5 November

The Duke of Kent, Patron, British German Association, will attend a dinner given by His Excellency Georg Boomgaarden at 23 Belgrave Square, London SW1.

## 6 November

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will be present at a reception given by the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard at St. James's Palace.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel, Grenadier Guards, will chair a council meeting at Buckingham Palace.

The Earl of Wessex will attend the Bounty Club dinner at the Honourable Artillery Company, City Road, London EC1.

The Countess of Wessex, Patron, National Autistic Society, will visit Prior's Court School, Hermitage, Thatcham, Berkshire.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, Public

Monuments and Sculpture Association, will present the Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Sculpture at Alan Baxter and Associates, Seventy Cowcross Street, London EC1.

## 7 November

The Queen will visit the Royal British Legion Poppy Factory, 20 Petersham Road, Richmond, Surrey, to mark its 90th anniversary.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General, Royal Marines, will attend the Colonels Commandant lunch at Stationers' Hall, London EC4.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Freeman and Liveryman, Fishmongers' Company, will attend a livery dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, London EC4.

The Earl of Wessex, President, Sport and Recreation Alliance, will hold a dinner at Buckingham Palace.

The Countess of Wessex, Grand President, St. John Ambulance in the Priory of England and the Islands, will attend a youth leader training event at St. George's Town Hall, London E1.

The Princess Royal, President, British Olympic Association, will attend a National Olympic Committee meeting at 60 Charlotte Street, London W1.

The Princess Royal, Patron, National Institute of Adult Continuing Education, will attend the launch of the report on Armed Forces Basic Skills Study at the Ministry of Defence, Whitehall, London SW1. The Princess Royal, Honorary Court Member, Fishmongers' Company, will attend a livery dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, London EC4.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy will attend a reception in aid of the Prince George Galitzine Memorial Library at the College of Arms, London EC4.

## 8 November

The Duke of Edinburgh, Life Member, Royal British Legion, will open the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey.

The Princess Royal, Honorary Court Member, Fishmongers' Company, will attend a court meeting and lunch at Fishmongers' Hall, London EC4.

The Princess Royal will unveil a bust of Noor Inayat Khan at Gordon Square, London WC1.

The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Anglian Regiment, will attend the homecoming parade, St Martin's Square, Basildon, Essex.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will attend a service in the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, London WC2, to celebrate the life and work of His Majesty King Michael of Romania. Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy will visit St Wilfrid's Hospice, Chichester, West Sussex. Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy will visit Prebendal School, Chichester.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy will attend evensong at Chichester Cathedral, Chichester.

## 9 November

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel, Grenadier Guards, will attend the 1st Battalion's medal parade and thanksgiving service at Lille Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire.

The Princess Royal will visit SPP Pumps Ltd at Coleford, Gloucestershire. The Princess Royal, Patron, Wooden Spoon, will open a new ménage at Watershed RDA, Glebe House, Coates, Gloucestershire.

The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Logistic Corps, will attend a parade to mark the restructuring of the Support Battalion Headquarters Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, Imjin Barracks, Gloucester. The Princess Royal will attend Gloucester Boat House Appeal's Olympians Dinner at Cheltenham Racecourse, Gloucestershire. ➤

# ROYAL DIARY



## 10 November

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7. The Earl and Countess of Wessex, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, and Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy will also be present.

## 10-16 November

The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall will visit New Zealand as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

## 11 November

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, London SW1. The Earl and Countess of Wessex, and Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy will also be present. The Earl of Wessex will take the salute at the parade that follows the service of remembrance, Horse Guards, London SW1.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Remembrance Sunday service at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire.

## 12 November

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Mass Extinction Memorial Observatory, will hold a dinner at Buckingham Palace.

## 13 November

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a reception for the winners of The Queen's Award for Enterprise.

The Earl of Wessex will visit King's Stairs Gardens, Jamaica Road, London SE16. The Countess of Wessex will open Escombe Village Hall, Escombe, County Durham. The Countess of Wessex will visit Hartlepool Sixth Form College, Brinkburn, Blakelock Road, Hartlepool. The Countess of Wessex will visit The Forum, Billingham, County Durham. The Princess Royal, Patron, Royal National Children's Foundation, will attend the annual conference at Credit Suisse Financial Products, 1 Cabot Square, London E14. The Princess Royal, Patron, Livability, will attend the annual awards ceremony at Grocers' Hall, London EC2. The Princess Royal, President, British Olympic Association, will hold a Team 2012 luncheon at Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Whitley Fund for Nature, will attend the annual supporters' dinner, Cheyne Walk, London SW10. The Duke of Gloucester, President, London Society, will attend the Banister Fletcher Lecture, Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1.

## 14 November

The Queen, Patron, will visit the Royal Commonwealth Society, 25 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, will present gold awards at St. James's Palace. The Earl of Wessex, Trustee, will attend the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Breakfast Meeting at the Dorchester, London W1. The Earl of Wessex, Trustee, will host a dinner for trustees of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Royal will attend the Royal Victorian Order evensong and reception at the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, Savoy Hill, London WC2. The Princess Royal will attend the Maritime Media Awards 2012, Institute of Directors, 116-123 Pall Mall, London SW1.

The Duke of Gloucester will present The Queen's Award for Enterprise to Metriclell Limited, 51 Bishopric, Horsham, West Sussex.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, Christ's Hospital, will attend its 460th anniversary at the Counting House, Christ's Hospital, Horsham. Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, President, Royal Humane

Society, will attend the Stanhope Gold Medal luncheon at the Canadian High Commission, Grosvenor Square, London W1.

## 15 November

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Fellow and Visitor, Royal College of Art, will open the 175th anniversary exhibition at the Royal College of Art, London SW7.

The Earl of Wessex, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, will hold a World Fellowship lunch at Buckingham Palace. The Earl of Wessex, Patron, Central Caribbean Marine Institute, will hold a dinner at Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Royal, President, City and Guilds of London Institute, will attend the Skills Show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

The Princess Royal, President, World Horse Welfare, will attend a conference at the Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7.

## 16 November

The Countess of Wessex, Patron, Disability Initiative, will attend a reception at the Royal Military Academy, Camberley, Surrey.

The Countess of Wessex, Colonel-in-Chief, Queen

Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, will attend a dinner at the Royal Military Academy, Camberley, Surrey. The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, will visit the 'Captain's Run' training session at Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh.

The Princess Royal, Chancellor, University of Edinburgh, will visit the Centre for Sports and Exercise, 46 Pleasance, Edinburgh.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Voluntary Service Overseas, will hold a reception at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The Princess Royal, Chancellor, University of Edinburgh, will hold the Chancellor's Awards ceremony and dinner at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, President, Sightsavers, will attend a reception at the World Bank, 1818 H Street, NW, Washington DC, USA.

#### 17 November

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children UK, and Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, will attend a reception at Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, will attend the Scotland v South Africa rugby international match at Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh.

#### 19 November

The Queen, Patron, Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund, and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the 2012 Royal Variety Performance at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7.

The Duke of Kent, Patron, Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, will attend a dinner at the Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich, London SE10.

#### 19-21 November

The Earl and Countess of Wessex will visit Malta.

#### 20 November

The Princess Royal, Patron, Sports Coach UK, will attend the UK Coaching Awards at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Lancaster Terrace, London W2.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, will attend the launch of the Commission on Child Health Research, Royal

College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Theobalds Road, London WC1. The Princess Royal, Patron, British Nutrition Foundation, will attend the annual prize-giving ceremony at the Royal College of Physicians, 11 St. Andrews Place, London NW1.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Japan Society, will attend a reception in support of the Tohoku Earthquake Relief Fund at St James's Palace.

The Duke of Kent, President of the Council, King Edward VII's Hospital (Sister Agnes), will attend the Friends' Reception at 5 Beaumont Street, London W1.

#### 21 November

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chief Patron, Surf Life Saving Great Britain, will hold a luncheon at Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, will visit the trust and attend a reception at Les Augrès Manor, Trinity, Jersey.

The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, will open the Jersey Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals veterinary centre, 89 St. Saviours Road, St. Helier, Jersey.

The Princess Royal will attend a dinner at Government House, St. Saviours Hill, St. Saviour, Jersey.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Festival of St Cecilia dedicated to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, in St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4.

The Duke of Kent, President, Royal Institution of Great Britain, will attend a gala dinner at Claridge's, Brook Street, London W1.

#### 22 November

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Bristol. The Princess Royal, President, Carers Trust, will attend a dinner at the Langham Hotel, 1c Portland Place, London W1.

The Duke of Gloucester will open Godalming Leisure Centre, Summers Road, Godalming, Surrey. The Duke of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Logistic Corps,

will attend the staff corps' dinner at the Princess Royal Barracks, Deepcut, Camberley, Surrey. The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Tchaikovsky gala in aid of Victim Support at the Barbican Centre, London EC2.

The Duke of Kent will visit the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the University of Birmingham, Edgbaston. The Duke of Kent will visit Manufacturing Technology Centre Limited, Ansty Park, Coventry.

The Duke of Kent will visit Bladon Jets (United Kingdom) Limited, Seven Star Industrial Estate, Whitley, Coventry.

#### 23 November

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Royal Southern Yacht Club, will attend a lunch at the Royal Southern Yacht Club, Hamble, Hampshire.

The Princess Royal, Patron, United Kingdom Sailing Academy, will attend the first annual youth conference at Broadgate Tower, London EC2.

The Princess Royal, President, Royal Yachting Association, will attend a reception, awards luncheon and the annual general meeting at One Great George Street, London SW1.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, Patron, will visit Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest, East India Dock Road, London E14.

#### 27-29 November

The Amir of the State of Kuwait, His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, will pay a state visit to the United Kingdom and stay at Windsor Castle.

#### 28 November

The Queen will visit Thames Hospicecare, Pine Lodge, Hatch Lane, Windsor, Berkshire.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Transaid, will attend a presentation and debate at Barclays Bank, 1 Churchill Place, London E14.

The Princess Royal, Chancellor, University of London, will attend Foundation Day at the University of London, Senate House, London WC1. The Princess Royal will open the kitchen complex at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London SE1.

The Duke of Kent, Patron, National Army Museum, will attend a dinner hosted by the Chief of the General Staff at Royal Hospital Road, London SW3.

#### 29 November

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a reception for Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenants.

The Princess Royal will attend a reception to mark the granting of city status to Chelmsford at Hylands Park, Chelmsford, Essex.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children UK, will visit a Save the Children shop at Unit 12, Baytree Shopping Centre, Brentwood, Essex.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Citizens Advice Bureau Tendring, Carnarvon Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

The Princess Royal, Royal Patron, UK Resource Centre – Women Into Science, Engineering and Construction, will attend an awards ceremony at the Institution of Engineering & Technology, 2 Savoy Place, London WC2.

The Princess Royal, Patron, London Scottish Football Club, will attend the Scottish Varsity launch dinner at the Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1.

The Duke of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Logistic Corps, will present campaign medals at the 4 Logistic Support Regiment homecoming parade at Dalton Barracks, Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

The Duke of Kent will visit Oxford Science Park, Magdalen Centre, 1 Robert Robinson Avenue, Oxford. The Duke of Kent will visit Diamond Light Source, Harwell Science and Innovation Campus, Didcot, Oxfordshire.

#### 30 November

The Princess Royal, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, will attend a 'KT-EQUAL' workshop at the College of Occupational Therapists, 106-114 Borough High Street, London SE1.

The engagements for the Prince of Wales and his family are usually announced too late for inclusion. Please visit [www.royal.gov.uk](http://www.royal.gov.uk) and [www.princeofwales.gov.uk](http://www.princeofwales.gov.uk) for regular updates.

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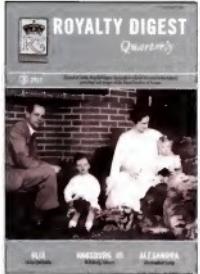


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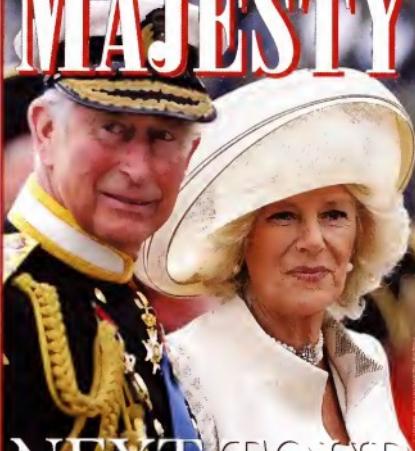
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# AND FINALLY...

## The royal world as seen through the eyes of ROBERT GOLDEN

**O**F THE FIVE sons-in-law of Queen Victoria, only one made old bones. Frederick III, the German Emperor and husband of Victoria's eldest daughter, Vicky, died from cancer in 1888 aged 56. The Grand Duke of Hesse, widower of her second daughter, Alice, reached 54; while the Duke of Argyll, who was married to Princess Louise, was a more respectable 68 when he died in 1914. Prince Henry of Battenberg, the husband of Victoria's youngest daughter, Princess Beatrice, was a mere 37 when he succumbed to a fever contracted whilst taking part in the Ashanti Campaign in Africa in 1896.

Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg, the husband of Princess Helena, was the exception and became an octogenarian, dying less than three months before his 87th birthday. At that time it was considered quite an achievement to reach one's late eighties.

A prince of the Augustenburg branch of the German duchy of Schleswig, Christian was born in Augustenburg in 1831. The duchy was divided into two branches; the Glücksburg branch rules in Denmark today.

As a younger son of the reigning duke, Christian's prospects in Germany were not particularly good, but marriage to a daughter of the British Queen gave him a place in society and enhanced status. Victoria, having lost her two elder daughters to German princes, was determined that Helena and her prospective husband would remain at home, preferably under her own roof.

But Helena firmly resisted this proposal, and whilst she and Christian always lived in royal residences, they never resided with her mother.

The couple were married in the private chapel at Windsor Castle on 5 July 1866, Victoria giving her daughter away. As a reward, Christian was raised to the rank of Royal Highness, made a Knight of the Garter and later became Ranger of Windsor Great Park.

As well as being virtually penniless – and thus grateful to Victoria for allowing him to flourish in England – Christian's elder brother Friedrich was, much to the Queen's delight, married to Princess Adelheid of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, a daughter of her half-sister, Feodora.

In spite of Christian being 15 years older than Helena and considered dull by his contemporaries, it was a happy and fulfilling union. Neither made demands on the other: Helena busied herself with many charitable causes; she paved the way for later generations of royal ladies to need support organisations helping those in need. Christian kept busy with his position as overseer of the Great Park, his military responsibilities and supporting his wife in her many social endeavours.

They had five children. Prince Christian Victor died from enteric fever in 1900 whilst taking part in the Boer War. Prince Albert, who was heir to the Schleswig duchy, spent the First World War in Germany and consequently was considered an enemy alien despite refusing to fight on the western front. He was not allowed to attend the funerals of his parents, though he was able to visit his English family from the late 1920s. Albert died in 1931 at his Silesian estates, leaving an illegitimate daughter, Valerie.

Princess Helena Victoria never married; however, her younger sister Marie Louise wed Prince Aribert of Anhalt, a disastrous union that ended in divorce after nine years. Marie Louise

returned to London and like her sister became a hard-working member of the royal family. The youngest child, Prince Harold, lived for only eight days.

In her autobiography *My Memories of Six Reigns*, Marie Louise debunked the Philistine reputation attributed to her father. 'He was a very keen horseman, and had a profound knowledge of forestry,' she noted, and 'in addition to these outdoor interests, he loved poetry and literature, and I think I must add *en passant* that he knew the whole of Gray's *Elegy* by heart. It was he who taught us and who gave me my love of literature.'

The Prince inherited from his mother a love of gardening, a talent he put to good use in the grounds of Cumberland Lodge, the house in Windsor Great Park that Victoria gave to the Christians. They also had the use of rooms at Buckingham Palace, but during her last years the old Queen secured their future in London by presenting them with a grace and favour residence, 78 Pall Mall, sometimes called Schomberg House erroneously.

Christian had a well-developed – if sometimes bizarre – sense of humour. Having lost an eye when his brother-in-law, the Duke of Connaught, missed his aim at a shoot, he wore a glass eye. He had several made, one of them bloodshot, which he used when he had a bad cold. Following a short illness he died at his house in Pall Mall on 28 October 1917.

The Prince's coffin was transported through the streets of Windsor on a gun carriage to St George's Chapel. Several Life Guards refused to accompany the cortège because of his German title, oblivious to the fact that Christian had been naturalised before his marriage 51 years previously. ■

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